



Minutes of the Regular Meeting
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 7, 2004
Vista Del Camino
Activity Room
7700 E. Roosevelt

Present: Chairperson Shelley Anderson, Vice-chair Leigh Hersey, Commissioners Bill Heckman, Donn Loper, Nona Oliver, and Stephen Owens

Staff Present: Debra Baird, Bill Murphy, Doug Nesselroad, Danielle Romero, Bill Tobey, Judy Weiss, and Rose Williams

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Anderson called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairperson Anderson asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Heckman moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 3, 2003 be approved as submitted. Commissioner Loper seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Debra Baird, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Director, advised the Commission that with her appointment to the position of Interim General Manager for Community Services, the Commission liaisons will be Judy Weiss and Bill Murphy. Ms. Baird advised that the newly formed Downtown Office of which John Little has been appointed as the Executive Director will now handle the Cultural Council contract. A copy of the City's Hot Line was distributed to the commission outlining the changes. Judy Weiss, Manager, advised the commission that McCormick Ranch had approximately 26,800 visitors for Holiday Lights. March will see the beginning of Spring Training at the Stadium. Ms. Weiss provided statistics on the registrations for Leisure Education classes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As provided for in the Parks & Recreation Commission By-Laws, the Commission shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the first regularly scheduled meeting each calendar year. The new officers will take office immediately and serve for a term of one year.

Chairperson Anderson called for nominations for the office of Chairperson. Commissioner Heckman nominated Vice-chair Hersey for the office of Chairperson. With no other nominations, the Commission unanimously elected Vice-Chair Hersey as Chairperson.

Commissioner Heckman nominated Commissioner Loper for the office of Vice-chair. Commissioner Loper nominated Commissioner Owens for the office of Vice-chair. Commissioner Owens respectfully declined the nomination. With no other nominations, the Commission elected Commissioner Loper as Vice-chair.

PARKS AND RECREATION NATIONAL ACCREDITATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Judy Weiss, Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation update on the Division's 10-year National Park and Recreation Agency accreditation process. Ms. Weiss provided the history of the agency and outlined the process.

Commissioner Anderson asked if this would mean the city could receive grants more readily. Ms. Weiss said there is no correlation between the accreditation and grant funding. Commissioner Anderson asked if Risk Management is involved in the process. Ms. Weiss said they help with all these types of processes. The accreditation will help reveal weaknesses in the organization.

Commissioner Owens asked if any other cities in Arizona are accredited. Ms. Weiss said no other city in Arizona is currently accredited.

UPDATE ON PROGRAMMING AT VISTA DEL CAMINO

Bill Tobey, Recreation Coordinator, provided the Commission with an update on the programs and activities currently taking place at Vista Del Camino. Vickie Munoz, mother of four children who participate in programming at the center, gave a testimonial on the programs and events at the center. Mr. Tobey introduced Danielle Romero, Recreation Leader II and Teen Programmer at the center. Ms. Romero outlined the teen programs and activities for the commission. Mr. Tobey also outlined the activities of the Vista Social Services, which is housed at the Community Center.

Commissioner Heckman noted that these are no cost programs and are held at the school sites. He asked why the schools don't do this type of programming. Ms. Baird noted the schools don't have the resources. Some afterschool programs are in city parks. The no-fee status of these programs may change in the future. Commissioner Heckman noted the city is now helping the schools with the field maintenance. These are wonderful programs. It all comes back to the fact schools don't have those resources. It is known that the budget process will be the most draconian yet. States are passing on cuts to cities. We are behind in the city on our facilities and that is an overriding issue. Ms. Weiss noted that through the city's partnership with the schools, we provide the programming and they have the facilities.

Commissioner Loper asked if staff contact ASU or SCC students to volunteer in these programs. Mr. Tobey said they do contact the universities and they support the America Reads program. Staff contacts teachers also.

Commissioner Heckman asked if volunteers get course credits. Mr. Tobey said they do.

Commissioner Heckman asked, in the teen program, what happens after 6 p.m. Ms. Romero said regulars frequent the center and there is drop-in activities after 6 p.m.

Commissioner Owens asked if attendance is tracked. Mr. Tobey said they register for the program but staff does not track individual attendance.

Commissioner Anderson asked what staff does about undesirables. Mr. Tobey said staff tries to reach out to them but the city does have a behavioral policy that everyone is expected to follow.

Commissioner Loper asked if the teens are given assistance in corresponding with colleges. Mr. Tobey said staff that are in college act as role models and help the kids with applications and other information.

Commissioner Anderson asked where the donations go. Mr. Tobey said to the Food Bank and Clothing Bank.

Commissioner Heckman noted that this center would be a meaningful stop for Scottsdale Leadership participants.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S. § 38-431.02)

Chairperson Hersey called for any items from the public or commission. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Heckman moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Owens seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

With no further information to be brought before the Commission, Chairperson Hersey adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Johnson, Recording Secretary.

Meets established criteria.

Judy Weiss, Manager
Parks, Recreation & Facilities

Bill Murphy, Service Manager
Parks, Recreation & Facilities